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complexity of the legal issues involved." *Wilborn v. Escalderon*, 789 F.2d 1328, 1331 (9th Cir. 1986) (internal quotations omitted). These factors must be viewed together before reaching a decision on a request for counsel. *Id*.

At this time, the Court is unable to assess the likelihood of success on the merits of plaintiffs' case. However, plaintiffs have not shown that, in light of the complexity of the legal issues involved, they are unable to articulate their claims *pro se*. To the contrary, plaintiffs' pleadings are fairly articulate and demonstrate a basic understanding of the facts and law involved in their case. Thus, plaintiffs have not demonstrated that this case involves exceptional circumstances that warrant the appointment of counsel at the present time.

(2) The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Order to the plaintiffs and the Honorable James L. Robart, United States District Judge.

DATED this 29th day of January, 2007.

AMES P. DONOHUE

United States Magistrate Judge

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